

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: M. Stavnes et al.)
SERIAL NO.: 09/054,986)
FILED: April 3, 1998)
FOR: Fuse Tube and Method)
of Manufacture Thereof)
GROUP ART UNIT: 1772)
EXAMINER: S. Nolan)
ATTORNEY DOCKET: SC-5285)
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST
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OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
ON: AUG. 23, 2002
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SIGNATURE: *James V. Lapacek*
DATE: AUG. 23, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TC 1700

AMENDMENT E

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 1, 2002, the period for response to which having been extended to September 1, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 36 as follows:

36. (fourth amended) A method of fabricating an arc-quenching tube via the winding of a first fiber in one or more winding passes, the method comprising winding the arc-quenching tube such that the first fiber lays flat and does not overlap in each of the one or more winding passes whereby a predetermined suitable uniformity is achieved in the thickness of the tube, the method further comprising forming a predetermined taper within the arc-quenching tube wherein the predetermined taper defines a desired minimum wall thickness of the tube, the predetermined suitable uniformity being such that variations in the thickness of the tube are significantly less than the desired minimum wall thickness so as not to significantly impact or interfere with the desired minimum wall thickness defined by the predetermined taper.

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